

Wednesday Morning, Dec 14, 1870:

The Alabama Difficulty.

It must have long since suggested itself to the reflection even of the most superficial observer that those who do the politics of the United States really have no desire to write off the Alabama account—that the interests of the parties actually aggrieved, of those who suffered material loss by the cruise of the Alabama, have all along been subordinated to political schemes. Indeed, it has been frankly admitted by the public men and public press of America that they would greatly prefer to keep the sore open, the quarrel unsettled, ready to be used at a favorable moment for the punishment of John Bull's alleged un-friendliness during the late war. And, upon a very recent occasion, when there appeared to be some prospect of a war between that power and Russia, it was seen how the Butler-Chandler class of politicians gloated over what they hoped would be an opportunity for taking Britannia at a disadvantage—stabbing her in the back while grappling with the great Bear of the North. Without pausing to moralize upon the spirit thus exhibited, or stopping to contrast it with that manifested by the British people when they saw the great Republic which had sprung from their loins prostrate and bleeding from internal dissensions, let us proceed to consider for a little the more practical leaning of this international difficulty. The Alabama question has recently assumed a new and important phase. We have said that the interests of the real sufferers by the cruise of the Alabama have been subordinated to mere political schemes, the schemers thinking it true policy to keep the question open. Those persons whose rights the Government at Washington pretend to maintain have, however, begun to think differently. They are disposed to think that as their claims are money claims they should be treated as a matter of business, rather than with reference to the alleged injury done to American feeling or the possible future of Canada. These individual losses foot up something like thirteen millions of dollars, and in the adjustment of their claims it is natural that they should prefer a little less of sentiment and a trifle more of business. They have seen and felt that the obstacle to an equitable adjustment of these claims has not been raised by Great Britain, that she has already conceded all that could be honorably conceded, all, in fact, that the American Master asked her to concede. All this these claimants have seen, and they have objected to their money claims being any longer made political merchandise of at Washington. They have, through their advocate, Mr John A. Parker, been airing their grievances in the columns of the *Times*, and have gone so far as to denounce what they very properly term the 'dog in the manger' policy of the Washington Government. Mr Parker argues that the Alabama claims are exclusively the property of individuals, and that the interests of the Government in them is entirely of a fiduciary character, with all the responsibilities and liabilities of such a trust; and there need be no hesitation in concluding that the trustees has acted wrongly, dishonestly in treating these claims as they have been treated, foregoing the exaction of them for political purposes. It holds them in abeyance, Mr Parker alleges, for objects of personal and political ambition and popularity. 'The acquisition of Canada,' continues Mr Parker, 'is one object known and confessed. Officers of the Cabinet have said authoritatively that if Canada were independent the Alabama claims could be settled in twenty-four hours.' It appears that the claimants, thinking they had waited long enough on the Government, consulted Mr Verney Johnson as to the disposition of Great Britain relative to the settlement of these claims. Encouraged by Mr Johnson's opinion they took occasion to sound the British Government through a gentleman visiting Europe. This gentleman experienced no difficulty in obtaining access to Lord Clarendon and others. At one of the interviews the question was asked, 'If we consent to pay these claims to the holders of them, how will the United States Government view it—favorably or unfavorably?' And will they not add this to the already long list of sins charged against England? So favorable was the result of these interviews that the plenipotentiary-extraordinary of the claimants wrote to his constituents, saying, 'If you can get a word of consent from the United States Government, so that England will not ear a misconception of what she does I can get you money as fast as you can count it.' But the sequel fully justified Lord Clarendon's distrust. The American Government peremptorily and unconditionally refused assent to any such arrangement; and the indignant claimants justly denounced the 'dog in the manger' policy of a Government which would neither get the money nor allow them to get it for themselves. In an article upon the whole question the *Times* submits that 'Justice demands that the (American) Government should do one of two things—either renew the negotiations with England in a straightforward manner, eliminating all considerations that interfere with the interests of the claimants, or else settle the claim itself and become the creditor of England. In the latter case, it might take its own time for again approaching the subject.' Having made this very just and practical suggestion, our big conservative hazards the prediction, 'But the Government will not do either of these things.' It has been seen however, that the United States Government proposes adopting the latter course pointed out by the *Times*, the President in his message the other day having recommended to Congress to authorise the appointment of Commissioners to take proof of amounts and ownership of vessels, and their claims, and that authority be given for a settlement of these claims by the United States, so that the Government shall have the ownership of those private claims as well as the responsible control of all demands against Great Britain.' It is by no means improbable that the Government at Washington has been induced to adopt this course in consideration of the negotiations instituted by the claimants on their own account. It remains to be seen in what way that Government proposes to turn to practical account its new position of creditor.

The Real Estate Tax Muddle.

Elsewhere will be found a report of an interview had with His Excellency the Governor yesterday, by a deputation of gentlemen representing large real estate interests in this part of the Colony. The real estate tax muddle has been prominently before the public for some time, and it will, we trust, be unnecessary to trouble the reader with any lengthy remarks upon the subject at the present moment. The very practical turn given to the question within the past few days, and the immediate results of the interview with His Excellency, must be regarded as eminently satisfactory, as presenting a way of escape from a most uncomfortable and disgraceful entanglement—a condition of things which, it is only common justice to remark, is in no way chargeable upon the present regime. The Governor has approached the difficulty in a spirit which encourages us to hope for an early and equitable solution, a final clearing away of those traces of past negligence, blundering and—something worse. What now remains to be done is to have such an Ordinance prepared as will meet the case, and a good, efficient Commission appointed to act thereunder. The former is in the hands of the Attorney General; the latter rests with His Excellency. What is to be done must be done as quickly as possible, as it is most desirable that the whole matter should be cleared up prior to the Colony being admitted into the Dominion. Let the Colony wash its dirty linen at home; and let washing day be previous to Dominion Day.

DELICATE, DELICIOUS, AND REFRESHING'

The subtle soul of fragrance, delicate, delicious and refreshing, is embodied in the true Murray & Lamm's Florida Water. Science when it produced this matchless perfume, caged in a glass prison the very spirit of the flowers. Avoid the worthless imitations.

Always ask for the Florida Water prepared by Lanman & Kemp, New York.

547.

WHITE SWELLINGS

Are generally considered to be indications of a serofulous tendency in the system, and the first thing to be done for their removal is to purify the blood and humors. Bristol's Sarsaparilla and Pills used conjointly, are possessed of the very properties required: they cleanse, purify, neutralize, and purge out of the system the bad humors which are the sole cause of the trouble.

573.

AUTUMN AND WINTER.—The study of the seasons is ever interesting and amply repays the student, who now learns that A B Gray, Government street, has just received a large stock of Fall Goods, comprising Winceys, Serges, Plaids, French Merinos, Waterpoof Tweeds, Astracan Cloth, Alpacas, Flannels, Baskets, Sheetings, Ladies' and Children's Jackets, Shawls, Hosiery, Silk Umbrellas, Hats, Feathers, Flowers, Ribbons, &c., &c., together with a choice selection of Fancy Small Wares suitable for the present season.—GOVERNMENT STREET, December 1870.

A. GILMORE, MERCHANT TAILOR, and General Outfitter, has removed his place of business to the store adjoining the Colonial Hotel and opposite the Colonist Office, on Government street, fourth door from Yates, where he proposes to give his old friends and new customers a chance on the principle of quick sales and small profits.

To ARRIVE.—Invoices have been received this morning at London House of a large and beautiful assortment of fancy goods to arrive next mail for Christmas and New Year. *

BOARD AND LODGING.—Gentlemen can be accommodated with Board or Lodging or both, with the comforts of an English home at a private residence. Address Mrs Bushell, Kane street, next door to Dr Bellamy's private residence.

New Goods, Journe's Gloves, &c., just received by Express at Victoria House.

*

New Advertisements.

People's Insurance Co.

FIRE AND MARINE,

CASH ASSETS - - - \$350,000.

OFFICE—No. 16 MERCHANTS' EXCHANGE,

California st., San Francisco.

C. S. MACDERMOT, H. G. HORNER,

President. Secretary.

N. CROSBY, Jr. General Agent for W. T.,

OFFICE AT OLYMPIA.

F. N. HIBBEN;

Agent for Victoria, V. I., B. C.

del4

MECHANICS'

LITERARY INSTITUTE

A GRAND CONCERT

IN AID OF THE

Funds of the Institute,

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR,

WILL BE GIVEN AT THE

THEATRE ROYAL

Monday, December 19, 1870,

The Programme will include

SOLOS, DUETS, CHORUSES

—AND—

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC,

By the most distinguished Amateur Musicians in Victoria, who kindly give their services on this occasion.

Doors open at 7:30; Concert to commence at 8.

PRICES OF ADMISSION—Boxes, \$8 and \$10; Dress Circle and Parquette, \$1, Pit, 50 cents. Reserved Seats 25 cents extra.

Tickets may be had at Messrs Hibben & Co., Mr Geo. Fox's Government street, or from any member of the Institute Committee.

Box Office will be open on the day of the Concert from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Wednesday Morning, Dec 14, 1870.

Shipping Intelligence.

PORT OF VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

ENTERED
Dec 13—Slip Invincible, Coffee, Sanich
Star Politofsky, Guindon, Port Townsend
Star Olympia, Finch, Port Townsend
CLEARED

The Vancouver Island Colony Real Estate Tax.

SATISFACTORY INTERVIEW WITH HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR BY FAMOUS PROPERTY-HOLDERS.

His Excellency Governor Mugrave received, at Government Buildings, yesterday, Messrs M. W. Drake, W. J. Macdonald, Robt. Barnaby, Ld. Lowenberg, J. D. Pemberton, Roderick Finlaysen and H. F. Heisterman, gentlemen largely interested in Island Real Estate, who called for the purpose of pressing upon His Excellency's attention the injustice that would be inflicted by the sale of lands for arrears of taxes under the most anomalous state of things that, perhaps, ever existed in a British Colony.

Mr Drake addressed His Excellency, stated the object of the deputation and reviewed the cardinal points of the memorial upon the subject, numerously signed, lately sent in. Mr. Drake said that Governor Seymour, in 1867, appointed a Commission which reported that in no single instance where property had been sold for taxes had the law been complied with by the Government officers—that their proceedings had been irregular and informal. In consequence of this report, Real Estate Tax Acts were repealed, but the Act of 1862 remained in force and under it the Government could enter upon any lands at once for arrears of taxes. A great hardship had been inflicted upon individual property-holders. Doubt existed as to who had paid taxes and who had not, and the Colonial Treasurer was unable to decide. Frequently receipts were produced for taxes upon lands which were not advertised for sale. It was impossible to search satisfactorily and ascertain what land owned and what did not owe taxes. A great deal of the confusion was owing to the failure of the Government to collect the taxes as prescribed by law. The deputation, therefore, would propose that where a receipt for taxes paid could be produced for any one year that taxes recorded against the property for previous years should be swept away—regarded as paid. The deputation asked for a Legislative enactment upon that basis.

His Excellency said he should be happy to comply with the request of the deputation, but he was surprised that the case was not met by the Repeal Act of 1867. No objection to that Act appeared to have been made.

Mr. Pemberton and Mr. Drake explained that the Act was passed at New Westminster after the unofficial Island members had left.

The Governor said the matter was certainly in a confused state, and that he should apply for power to appoint a commission to revise the lists.

Mr. Drake urged that it would be impossible to produce receipts for taxes on property, some of which had changed hands 15 or 20 times, and that the better course would be to take all taxes antecedent to the latest receipt produced as paid.

His Excellency said he would have no objection to such a course if the Legislature saw fit to adopt the plan, the Government would introduce an ordinance to that effect.

Mr. Ward, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Lowenberg and Mr. Heisterman mentioned several cases wherein great injustice had been inflicted upon parties who had purchased real estate under the belief that all taxes had been paid.

The Governor replied that a commission would take cognizance of such cases.

Mr. Lowenberg said that the commission should have full power given them by any Act of the Legislature that might be passed, and that the Registrar-General should receive instructions not to register the roll as a charge against real estate.

His Excellency stated that if an Act were passed it would be with a view to affording substantial relief. The matter should certainly be cleared up.

Mr. Ward instanced a case wherein he deemed a lot once; it was sold again, and now he found it advertized in the present list!

Mr. Drake pointed out that arrears of the 1/2 per cent City tax of '62 and '63 were comprised in the list and had nothing in the world to do with the Crown tax.

His Excellency again said that the whole matter would be put in a shape to afford substantial relief, and the deputation withdrew.

POPULATION.—The recent American census returns give the larger cities of the Eastern States of America rather less population than has commonly been claimed for them. For instance: New York has been said to have a population of 1,100,000. It has only 907,070. Philadelphia was put down at 820,000. The census gives it 759,000. Chicago claimed 350,000. It has but 297,719. Buffalo was credited with 176,000. The returns give it but 142,247.

The Western Union Telegraph Company has perfected arrangements whereby all its Agents will be authorized to give telegraphic transfers from any office on the Pacific coast or East, to any other, for any sum not exceeding \$50. Agents are authorized to sell such transfers.

THE GOOD TEMPLARS' TEA MEETING.—His Excellency Governor Mugrave and Sir James Douglas, K. C. B., have extended their patronage to the Good Templars' Tea Meeting and Soiree, to be held on the 20th inst. It is gratifying to know that the Soiree promises to be one of most enjoyable and successful affairs of the kind ever held in Victoria, as the arrangements are of the most complete order, and it is meeting with the greatest encouragement among respectable people. The object is one which can scarcely fail to command itself to the right thinking. Let all unite to make the occasion a grand success.

THE BARK ADA.—This vessel has been relieved of most of her large cargo and will sail for Burrard Inlet via Nanaimo on or about Saturday. At Nanaimo a quantity of machinery for the Vancouver Coal Mining Company will be discharged, and the vessel will then proceed to Moody's mills to load with lumber for a foreign port. The cargo has thus far been landed in prime order. The bar-iron is free from the faintest appearance of rust—an unusual circumstance after a long voyage. Capt. Fallshaw and his officers are deserving of praise for the admirable state in which the ship was brought into port.

THE COUGAR started South on the Pelican yesterday. He is destined to astonish and delight the native and imported San Franciscans who make Woodward's Garden a place of resort and natural history their study.

Municipal Council.

TUESDAY, Dec. 13.

Council met at 7:30 P.M. Present: His Worship the Mayor, Councilors McKay, Gerow, Carey and Heathorn.

The Poundkeeper's report for November was read and approved.

A communication from Mr. Rook, complaining of the nuisance from Steinberger's distillery, was read.

The Mayor stated that the Board of Health had waited on Mr. Steinberger, when he had promised to make a task in which he would deodorize the offensive matter; but it appeared he had taken no steps in the affair.

Some discussion ensued, the Mayor giving it as his opinion that the Board of Health had power to abate the nuisance although it originated beyond the limits of the city. He would, however, examine the bylaws and, if he found it clear, would notify Mr. Steinberger on the part of the Board of Health.

The Clerk stated that Mr. Chas. Kent had declined to act as auditor, and the Council appointed Mr. Baker in his stead.

Coun. Gerow, from the Street Committee, reported that they had examined Vancouver street and considered it undesirable to make any repairs during the wet season.

Coun. McKay from the Finance Committee reported upon the account of Edward Mallandain for collection of road taxes for 1869, 1870 and 1871, showing an inaccuracy by an overcharge of commission of \$13 20, and other charges not authorized of \$31 86, making a total of \$51 85 excess.

On motion of Coun. Carey a Committee was appointed to wait upon Mr. Mallandain and interrogate him with regard to the extra charges.

Couns. Heathorn, Gerow and McMillan were appointed and committee.

A communication from Frank Sylvester, Secretary of the Fire Department, was read, requesting a committee of the Council to meet a committee of the Fire Department to confer with regard to the financial condition of the Department.

The communication was received and a committee appointed.

The Mayor called the attention of the Council to the bad condition of Bastion street.

Coun. McKay directed attention to the dilapidated condition of the sidewalks on Humboldt street.

Coun. Carey likewise said some money should be expended on Broughton street, leading from Government street to Hayward & Jenkinson's factory.

FELL DOWN A HATCHWAY.—On Saturday morning Mr. Owen, first officer of the ship Montgomery Castle, accidentally fell down the hatchway from the between decks, a distance of about 12 feet into the hold. He had been playing between decks with a young child belonging to the Captain, and had started to go below, having the child in his arms, when his foot slipped from the first step of the ladder. He had a very narrow escape, as, in his effort to save the child, he had little chance to save himself. He struck on the back of his head and shoulders and was sprained as well as bruised, but received no serious injury, as we learned yesterday afternoon. The child escaped unharmed.

PEOPLE'S INSURANCE CO., or SAN FRANCISCO.—A. R. Gunnison, Esq., special agent for the People's Fire and Marine Insurance Company, of San Francisco, California, is in town. Mr. Gunnison has established agencies at all of the principal cities and towns on the coast and has appointed Mr. T. N. Hibben to look after the interests of the Company at Victoria. The Company was organized at San Francisco in 1867 and numbers among its members some of the leading business men of the Bay City.

EXECUTIVE MEETING.—The Executive Council was in session all day yesterday, probably preparing the Estimates. Let us hope these will be framed rather more in the interest of the people out of whose pockets the revenue is chiefly drawn than hitherto been the case. Where there is so very little opportunity to revise or reconstruct the Estimates in the Legislature, it is all the more important that they should come from the hands of the Executive in a satisfactory form.

POPULATION.—The recent American census returns give the larger cities of the Eastern States of America rather less population than has commonly been claimed for them. For instance: New York has been said to have a population of 1,100,000. It has only 907,070. Philadelphia was put down at 820,000. The census gives it 759,000. Chicago claimed 350,000. It has but 297,719. Buffalo was credited with 176,000. The returns give it but 142,247.

THE BARK LULU.—This vessel cleared for San Francisco via Skidegate Bay, Queen Charlotte Island, yesterday, and will probably sail to-day. At Queen Charlotte Island she will take in 700 tons of anhydrite coal and will sail thence for San Francisco direct. Pickett & Harrison, are the agents at San Francisco for the coal.

ASSAULT.—Robert Bartram, a seaman on the Pocahontas, was yesterday before the Police Court on a charge of assaulting Constable McCarthy. The accused was fined \$4, or in default of payment, two months' imprisonment.

COURT.—The following cases were on the docket yesterday and were postponed:

Hart vs. Webster, Copperman vs. Hodges, until Monday next; Castle vs. Murray, until to-day; Green vs. Moss, pending an appeal for trial in the Supreme Court.

For 1871.—Messrs T. N. Hibben & Co., have favored us with their calendar for 1871—an elegantly printed affair, and of great public value and convenience.

CHRISTMAS, 1870.—The show of fancy goods for the season will commence on Saturday next, the 17th inst., at London House, Government street.

TREASURE SHIPMENT.—Yesterday the following shipments were made through Wells, Fargo & Co's Express: Bank of British Columbia, \$45,599 07. Bank of British North America, \$27,603 03. Wells, Fargo & Co., \$14,882 66. Total—\$88,084 76.

DEPARTURE.—The steamship Pelican for San Francisco, steamers Olympia and Polkoffsky for Puget Sound, steamer Sir James Douglas for Nanaimo, and steamer Grappler for Burrard Inlet, sailed yesterday.

THE PELICAN sailed at 10:15 o'clock yesterday morning. She carried 95 passengers 20 tons of telegraph wire, 30 tons of potatoes, shipped by Promis & Saunders, and 17 tons of coal.

THE PORT TOWNSEND ARGUS has reappeared as an evidence of the re-established health of the proprietor, Mr. Pettygrove. The Argus is a good paper.

GERMANS GOLD.—Actual assay proves the Germanen creek gold to be 845 fine. Thus its market value here will be about \$16 25 per ounce.

THE BROKEN shaft of the propeller G. S. Wright has been successfully welded at Portland. The Wright was advertised to sail for Sitka yesterday.

GERMANS GOLD.—In Mr. Jungerman's jewelry shop window, Government street, may be seen a quantity of Germanen Creek dust. It attracts crowds to the shop.

THE BARK ILLUMINI, 490 tons register, is loading at Liverpool for Portland, consigned to Janion, Rhodes & Co.

SPECIAL TO THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST.

LAST NIGHT'S DISPATCHES.

Europe.

LONDON, Dec 7.—The impression prevails in the clubs to-night that the hopes of the French Imperialists are greatly strengthened and that the Prussian government is decidedly favorable to the restoration of the Empire.

Mr. Faidien in a despatch of the 7th from Paris asserts that the retreat of the army of the Loire was effected without other sacrifice than the naval guns in the entrenchments at Orleans, all of which were spiked.

The army of the Loire has divided into two bodies: the left wing moving towards the between decks, a distance of about 12 feet into the hold. He had been playing between decks with a young child belonging to the Captain, and had started to go below, having the child in his arms, when his foot slipped from the first step of the ladder. He had a very narrow escape, as, in his effort to save the child, he had little chance to save himself. He struck on the back of his head and shoulders and was sprained as well as bruised, but received no serious injury, as we learned yesterday afternoon. The child escaped unharmed.

The purchase of provisions for the use of Paris after the capitulation was entrusted to the office of Commissary of War who had concluded contracts with English houses. The officers preferred to operate through German houses but it was ascertained that the export of provisions would produce inconvenience in Germany.

Tours, Dec 9.—The government has made public the following intelligence: General Chaney's reply to the war department was that an attack all along the lines from Louans to St. Lauseau Des Faux last night the principal efforts of the enemy were at Beauchamp. The Germans were very strong at that place having 86 cannon. The forces consisted of the 2d division of Breman, 1st division of Prussian, 2,000 cavalry and a strong reserve under Frederick Charles and the Duke of Mecklenburg. The enemy was repulsed and driven beyond Grande Laitte. We hold the position to-night that we held this morning. The Prussian loss is heavy. The battle lasted till the darkness came on. We may be attacked to-morrow but are well prepared to resist. Gen. Stephens' command of division was wounded. The Prussians were driven beyond Versailles. (?)

DAMSTADT, Dec 8.—Prince Louis telegraphs to the Grand Duke of Hesse from Orleans on the 7th: We move on Tours to-day. Heavy losses in the recent battles are very slight.

LONDON, Dec 7.—Gladstone's note announcing that the government has made the provisions necessary for the protection of the Pope adequate for the support of his dignity and personal freedom and the independence of his spiritual functions, excites surprise and criticism. The Government by such declaration made at this moment intends the double purpose of influencing a large Catholic meeting at St. James' Hall on Friday and conciliating the feeling in Ireland and here.

The rumor of impending difficulty with America is already creating considerable alarm.

LONDON, Dec 9.—The Press to-morrow will attack Gladstone's note concerning the protection of the Pope, declaring it an utter reversal of traditional English policy since the reformation.

IGNATIUS declares it is impossible to withdraw Gortzchakoff's note but says the Czar will not violate the treaty of 1856.

BERLIN, Dec 9.—There was another anti-slavery riot of a serious character yesterday caused by resistance to the order for drafting married men. The landwehr and the police were unable to quell the riot and the military were called out. They suppressed the disorder, using great severity. It is the order drafting the married men is carried out it will give an additional force of 250,000 men.

NEW YORK, Dec 13.—A London correspondent states that a despatch from Gambetta on Friday says that, encouraged by the continued resistance of the army of the Loire, he has resolved to postpone his request for an armistice and remain with the army.

BORDEAUX, Dec 11.—The Government is installed here.

Large reinforcements are going forward from all parts of France. The troops are all perfectly equipped and armed. A number of batteries well furnished with men and horses are ready to take the field and also large cavalry forces.

Several victories are announced.

Theirs is here.

It is improbable that Prussia repudiates the treaty guaranteeing the neutrality of Luxembourg.

BERLIN, Dec 10.—The bombardment of Paris is not deferred by any special influence, but solely for military reasons.

The Duke of Mecklenburg telegraphs to the Duchess, announcing a victory at Meudon on the 9th.

THE BAVARIAN JOURNAL says the army of the Loire has been reinforced by 40,000 men.

LONDON, Dec 12.—The German advance on Havre has turned aside and Dieppe was probably occupied by them to-day.

The excitement at Brussels concerning the threats of Bismarck against Luxembourg, was intense.

BORDEAUX, Dec 10.—Advices from Toulon announce the arrival there of over 1000 German prisoners.

Gambetta telegraphs to twenty Prefects of Departments from headquarters that Gen. Cleary continues to resist the attacks of Prince Frederick Charles, taking many prisoners and inflicting heavy loss upon the Prussians.

LONDON, Dec 10.—The Pall Mall Gazette, in a leader argues against the declaration of the Paris Treaty of 1856, because it may have the effect of transferring the carrying trade almost entirely to the U. S.

These Russian vessels are building and nearly completed in Damund's ship yard on the Thames. It is said they are merchant vessels.

GAMBELLS, Dec 10.—In the Chambers to-

day Baron Authen said he was aware of the receipt of Prussia's note in regard to Luxemburg.

Prussia to reject the petition of the French prisoners in Belgium to return to their country as in the case of Luxemburg. It ought to be a warning to Europe.

LONDON, Dec 9.—London Clubs are full

of rumors to-night of the speedy consummation of peace and restoration of the empire. Great significance is attached to the manner in which the Empress has been received by Queen Victoria at Windsor.

The feeling is strong that victory for France is hopeless under a Republic.

Private advices from all parts of France indicate a reaction everywhere in favor of the restoration of the Empire. The people are contrasting 20 years of order and prosperity with the present misery and anarchy. The Tours Government has proved incompetent either to conduct war or negotiate for peace. Napoleon refuses to sanction any scheme for his restoration at present, saying his part is silence until the Republicans either capitulate or are dispersed.

LITTLE, Dec 8.—Abbyville has not yet been occupied by the Prussians. A squadron of French gourauds have been sent to protect shipping entering the of St Nazaire at the mouth of the Loire.

LONDON, Dec 9.—An influential committee has been formed here with Thos Hughes as chairman, for the purpose of exacting all possible security for the maintenance of peace with America. A committee formed some time since considers it expedient to take no public action until after the claims are settled.

An impression is prevalent that the extreme Canadian view of the fishery dispute cannot be sustained. The proposal to buy the Alabama claims is regarded as a big job commenced by a clique who have already purchased claims at small figures, intending to make hundred per cent.

The suit of Dowling vs. Oasman and others, for ejectment from the premises owned by plainwell on Fulton and Broad streets, was decided last week in his favor. Saturday the Sheriff went out to dispossess the squatters, who desired permission to have until Monday to move, which was granted.

Before daybreak this morning some 200 or 300 armed roughs, acting in the interest of the squatters, raised the two houses, placed them on rollers and hauled them across the street upon the other lot.

SOME days since an officer holding a responsible position in the Federal Courts, snapped a pistol at the large glass ornamental sign in front of the What Cheer House. He was arrested, but testified in his own behalf that it was accidental. He was discharged, although four loaded pistols were found on his person. This morning, similarly armed and equipped, he tried again, putting a bullet through the lamp and shattering both sides. He appears to be insane upon the subject of that lamp.

